



February 17, 2018

ב אדר תשע"ח

**Parashat Terumah** תרומה Exodus 25:1 - 27:19

Stone – p 444

Hertz – p 326

Etz Hayim – p 485

**Hafarah** – I Kings מלכים א 5:26 - 6:13

Stone – p 1157

Hertz – p 336

Etz Hayim – p 500

*Kiddush* is sponsored by Sisterhood

**Minchah**—5:15 PM

**Seudah Sh'lishit**

is sponsored by Fred & Lili Chait  
in memory of Fred's father, Gus Chait

**Shabbat Ends**—6:21 PM

## **TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION**

Rabbi Seth D Gordon – Rabbi.Gordon@yahoo.com

Rabbi Ephraim Zimand, Emeritus – ravzim@yahoo.com

Marian S. Gordon, Executive Director – tradcong@sbcglobal.net

### **DAILY SERVICE TIMES**

Shabbat—9:00 AM & 5:00 PM

Sunday—8:30 AM

Monday -Thursday—7:00 AM & 6:30 PM

Friday—7:00 AM & 5:45 PM

### **Board of Directors:**

Kenneth H. Bohm, President

Steve Bell, Executive Vice President

Ellis Frohman, Financial Vice President

Marty Levy, Ritual Vice President

Florence Schachter, Education Vice President

Elaine Farkas, Membership Vice President

(Open) Administrative Vice President

Steve Roufa, Building & Grounds Vice President

Chris Brown, Fundraising Vice President

Lori Tesser, Treasurer

Mimi Levy, Secretary

Christy Brick, Sisterhood Representative

### **Members at Large:**

Sid Bennett

Shelah Feldman

Bill Gold

Ari Levy

Carol Max

Steven Puro

Dina Rinder

Iris Salsman

Jerry Tullman

Jeff Weisman

Justin Zeid

*Traditional Congregation welcomes new members. If someone you know would like to receive membership information, please contact Membership VP Elaine Farkas at 954-558-1159.*

## ***D'var Torah*** from Rabbi Gordon in Efrat, Israel: ***Parshat Terumah***

The **mishkan** / מִשְׁכָּן is the subject of this week's parashah, T'rumah. The Torah records that Moses is now receiving the instructions for the portable sacred area, which will travel amidst the Israelite people from Sinai to the Promised Land. Moses will communicate the details to the people later in parashat **Va-yakhel** (three Shabbatot from now.)

The three-letter root of the word mishkan is **sh-k-n** / ש-כ-ן, meaning "dwell" with the sense of something spiritually intimate. The Hebrew words for God's intimate presence is **Shechinah** / שְׁכִינָה, a neighbor is a **shachen** / שָׁכֵן, and a neighborhood a **sh'chunah** / שְׁכוּנָה. The Torah does not state that God will dwell in it, but will dwell among the people. Therefore, although the function of the **mishkan** is real, the idea is symbolic.

The Talmud (BT Berachot 12a) records:

ובשבת מוסיפין ברכה אחת למשמר היוצא. מאי ברכה אחת? א"ר חלבו: משמר היוצא אומר למשמר הנכנס, "מי ששכן את שמו בבית הזה, הוא ישכין ביניכם אהבה ואהיה ושלום וריעות.".

When one group of Kohanim would end their **mishmar** / shift and greet the other **mishmar** come to replace them, they would offer a **berachah**: R Chelbo said: the outgoing **mishmar** would say to the incoming **mishmar**, "The One who **shiken** -- (causes His name to dwell) in this House, **yashkin** (may He cause His name to dwell) among you -- love, brotherhood, peace, and friendship" -- the last four words the very same ones with which we bless a bride and groom in the seventh **berachah** under the **chuppah**.

The particulars of the **mishkan** are difficult to follow for several reasons: a) There are many technical elements, whose descriptions and functions are hard to comprehend by verbal instruction and b) We have not experienced the **mishkan** for many centuries and generations.

Amidst the fine colored yarns, the various precious metals and gems, the wood, and the spices, are commands that the gold furniture, such as the 7-branched menorah, be made "**mikshah**." As RaSHI explains, the word means "hammered out of a single block," rather than out of many pieces with those pieces then being joined together.

The entire **menorah** and its branches can be explained symbolically. Light often was a symbol of wisdom, as in enlightenment. Light also symbolizes God. The **menorah** perhaps symbolizes that all branches come from God's wisdom, that human life is an expression of the One that is in all of us.

But, of course, the same idea could be expressed if the pieces were made first individually and then afterwards joined together. In this way, all wisdom or people could be re-attached to our divine source. So, the question remains, "Why in this order?"

I offer this: When we understand our common original source, then our commonality and our common end (building a better world) will be evident. But when we see ourselves and our wisdom as originally disjoined, from an uncommon source, although we may at times come together, it is less likely that it will endure. The view is unlike the American motto -- e pluribus unum -- out of many, one. It appears that when we see ourselves as many, the unity is beyond us. Our politics, now, and then, keep us divided, and subdivided.

As Jews our national paradigmatic source is God and Sinai, when we were joined as a nation with God; as humans the model occurred at creation, when we were all created "in God's image." Although as Jews we have a special heritage of our own, **kedushah** / קְדוּשָׁה, holiness, is not at the expense of our common human heritage; similarly, our common human heritage is not at the expense of our Jewish Sinaitic heritage.

May the symbol of the **menorah** in the **mishkan**, reflecting God's **shechinah**, dwell among us, and bring love, brotherhood, peace, and friendship among the Jewish people and to all people.

**REDEDICATION SHABBAT**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2018**

**HONORING**

**STAN & ERIKA GREENBERG**

**FOR THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE**

**TO OUR CONGREGATION**



**SERVICES BEGIN AT 9:00 AM  
AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A  
KIDDUSH LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF  
STAN & ERIKA**



Friday, March 2, 2017

5:45 PM—Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6:30 PM—Delicious, kosher, full-course dinner

\$18/person.

No charge for first-time guests!



by February 22

tradcong@sbcglobal.net

314-576-5230

Register on-line at

<http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-3157757/First-Friday-Shabbat-Experience>

*Experience the warmth of  
Traditional Congregation !*

12437 Ladue Rd  
St Louis MO 63141



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 18 **Mishloach Manot Assembly Day**, 10:00 AM. Volunteers needed to help assemble our Mishloach Manot gift baskets. Please contact Elaine Farkas 954-558-1159 or Nikki Goldstein 314-807-2055 if you're available to help. (NOTE: Volunteers will NOT be needed on Sun, Feb 25; however, we do need drivers on Thursday, March 1. Thank you!!)

**Broadway's calling you!!!** OK, not really, but the Traditional Not-Ready-for-Purim Shpielers are! Rehearsals on Sunday evenings Feb. 18 & 25, performance on Purim evening, Wed, Feb 28. Contact Barbara Gaponoff Berson **by text** if you'd like to participate, 314-740-3043.

Shabbat, February 24 **Rededication Shabbat**. Stan & Erika Greenberg are our 2018/5778 Rededication Shabbat Honorees! Join us on February 24 as we thank them for many years of dedicated service to our congregation. Shabbat services begin at 9:00 AM and will be followed by a lovely kiddush luncheon in honor of Stan & Erika.

### Celebrate Purim at Traditional!

Wednesday, February 28

Ta'anit Esther/Fast of Esther

Arvit/Megillah Reading—6:30 PM with special shpiel by The Not-Ready-For-Purim Players!

Thursday, March 1

Shacharit/Megillah Reading—**6:30 AM**

Arvit—6:30 PM

Friday, March 2 **First Friday!** Kabbalat Shabbat services and a delicious kosher dinner—all for just \$18/person. Bring your friends, bring your family—no charge for first-time visitors to TradCong. RSVP by Feb. 20, on-line registration at: <http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-3157757/First-Friday-Shabbat-Experience>

**Winter Outreach St Louis Jewish Community Drive for the Homeless:** Frigid temperatures are brutal for the homeless and can be deadly. Items are needed for emergency shelters, and can be dropped off at area synagogues, including Traditional Congregation. Items may be dropped off in the donation bin near our administrative office. Especially needed are:

Socks, Boots (large, XL and XXL especially)

Underwear (large, XL and XXL especially)

Coats, Hats, Gloves (large, XL and XXL especially)

Blankets, Pillows, Towels, Washcloths

Food, Money, Bus Passes

Volunteers to pick up/deliver donations & work at the shelters

**We're looking for...YOU**—to sponsor a Kiddush! Call Marian, 314-576-5230 to reserve your date. Not ready to sponsor but would like to contribute to offset our Kiddush costs? It's easy to do—you can mail your donation to Traditional (note: Kiddush Fund in memo) or donate online at <https://www.traditional-congregation.org/donate> and select Kiddush Fund Donation. Thank you!

TOMCHEI SHABBOS: PURIM MISHLOACH MONOT CARDS AVAILABLE! For the first time ever, festive Purim cards are offered through Tomchei Shabbos! Do the mitzvah of mishloach monot while supporting our Tomchei Shabbos families! Cards are 6 for \$18, or 20 for \$54. These beautiful Purim cards may be purchased from Jackie Oppenheimer (997-6924), Martha Ginsburg (991-0594), or Tammy Friedman (917-699-3107). Or email your order to: [TomcheiShabbosSTL@gmail.com](mailto:TomcheiShabbosSTL@gmail.com).



Visit our website [www.traditional-congregation.org](http://www.traditional-congregation.org)

## **PRAYER**

Source of all goodness, as we join in *Shabbat* worship,  
We ask Your blessings.

*Grant us health enough to perform our daily tasks,  
Wealth enough to answer our needs,  
Compassion enough to feel the needs of others.*

Give us strength enough to recognize our faults,  
Wisdom enough to understand Your laws,  
Loyalty enough to discharge our duties.

*Give us courage enough to be true to the best within us,  
Charity enough to see the best in others.*

Give us patience enough not to become discouraged,  
Hope enough to overcome all fears for the future,

*And faith enough to feel Your presence.*

*Unknown*

## **THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Wherever you find God's greatness, there you find his humility.

*Rabbi Yohanan,  
Megilla 31a*